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HUNGARIAN PARLIAMENT PASSES 1952 BUDGET

On 14 - 21 December 1951, the Hungarian parliament discussed and passed the national budget for 1952. In submitting the budget to the parliament, Minister of Finance Karoly Olt drew a comparison between the appropriations for 1951 and 1952, respectively, and gave the following summary.

The 1951 budget, totaling 29.5 billion forints, balanced with a surplus of approximately 200 million forints. In the 1952 budget, revenues total 42,599,700,000 forints and expenditures 42,314,200,000 forints, resulting in a surplus of 285,500,000 forints.

The largest single expenditure item represents investments of 15.3 billion forints, 40 percent of which have been allocated to the heavy industries. During 1952, the Bekescsaba Tool Factory, the Kaposvar Spinning Mill, the Sarkad Hemp Factory, and the Malyi Brickworks will be completed. Approximately 13 percent of the investments were appropriated for agriculture, and investments for the development of towns and villages will be 80 percent greater in 1952 than in 1951.

Beginning with the 1952 fiscal year, a new system of providing for increased circulating capital requirements will be inaugurated. Under the new system the state enterprises will be authorized to raise their circulating capital in proportion to their increased production and to retain the necessary funds out of profits.

The number of agricultural and industrial research institutions will be increased by 11, and a total of 264 million forints will be invested in research institutions during 1952, or 129.7 million forints more than in 1951. The area of experimental farms will total 45,000 cadastral yokes as compared with 20,000 cadastral yokes during the current year.

During the 1951 - 1952 school year, over 1,200,000 students were enrolled in the elementary schools, while enrollment in the high schools rose to 108,000. During the 1950 - 1951 academic year, diplomas were issued to six times as many

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engineers, twice as many doctors, four times as many teachers, three times as many economists, and 1.5 times as many agriculturists as in 1937 - 1938. Currently, over 40,000 students are enrolled in colleges and universities. Enrollment in the one-year technical courses rose to 6,000 by the autumn of 1951 as compared with 4,390 a year earlier.

The bulk, or 87.1 percent, of budgetary revenues will be derived from the socialized sector of the national economy in 1952. State enterprises will contribute 36.6 billion forints, 26.2 billion of which will come from the turnover tax. Revenues from the profits of state enterprises in 1952 have been budgeted at 5,330,000,000 forints, that is 40 percent higher than in 1951. The population will contribute 5.5 billion forints, equivalent to 12.9 percent of the 1952 revenues, mostly in taxes, inclusive of 900 million forints from the second peace loan.

On 17 December, Istvan Antos, Deputy Minister of Finance, stated that 1952 appropriations for investments total 3.6 billion forints more than in 1951 and that a supplementary appropriation of 619 million forints for investments is also included in the budget. In addition, the 1952 budget includes a reserve of 960 million forints set aside for the replenishment of stockpiles. This reserve will protect Hungary's economy from the effects of economic disturbances in the capitalist countries. Fourteen percent of the total expenditures will be devoted to the modernization of the army and other defense organizations.

Istvan Kristof, member of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Workers Party, commented that due to the increase in investments, industrial production will grow by 25 percent and the national income by 21 percent during 1952 as compared with 1951.

Budgets of Council of Ministers and Individual Ministries

On 18 December, the parliament discussed the budgets of the Council of Ministers and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Defense, and Public Health.

In submitting the budget of the Council of Ministers, Jozsef Nagyistok, vice-president of the parliament, called attention to the fact that two new agencies, namely, the National Manpower Commission and the National Office for Religious Affairs, are included in the 1952 budget of the Council of Ministers. An additional source of the increase in appropriations is a fund of 2.3 million forints, which will be used to reward industrial plants leading in work competition and counties leading in the collection of farm products.

Istvan Kossa, president of the National Office for Religious Affairs, described the activities of the various agencies operating under the jurisdiction of the Council of Ministers, namely, the National Economic Planning Council, the National Planning Office, the National Control Center, the Central Statistical Office, the Academy of Sciences, the farm cooperatives, the National Wage Committee, and the National Office for Religious Affairs. Speaking of the latter agency, Kossa stated that inclusion of the Roman Catholic clergymen in the national social security system will result in budgetary expenditures of 7 million forints, while the recent increase in the salaries of clergymen will add 13 million forints to expenditures during 1952. No further budget figures mentioned.

In connection with the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Daniel Nagy boasted that Hungarian foreign policy had scored important successes in 1951 by intensifying the friendly relations which tie the country to the USSR and other People's Democracies. A number of long-term economic and cultural agreements were concluded with the People's Democracies, and legations were opened at New Delhi and Teheran. The ministry is planning to establish additional foreign representations in the course of 1952.

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The ministry performed a great service in unmasking the hostile attitude and warmongering plans of the US and its satellites and also carried out extensive educational work abroad by disseminating the proper evaluation of the situation of the Hungarian People's Democracy.

Valeria Benke, secretary of the National Peace Committee, told parliament that each item in the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is devoted to the maintenance of peace. The Hungarian peace movement kept step with the world movement for peace, and "brilliant proof of Hungary's peace policy was the abrogation of food ration system."

Erno Mihalyfi, Deputy Minister of Culture and Secretary General of the National Peace Committee, spoke of Hungary's cultural ties with the USSR and its gratitude for Soviet help and Gyorgy Parragi, Kossuth-Prize-winning editor of Magyar Nemzet, of Hungary's aspiration to maintain peace.

In his address to parliament, Karoly Kiss, Minister of Foreign Affairs, devoted his opening comments to the cause of peace and cooperation with the USSR and the People's Democracies. He said that, due to the aggressive policies of the US, the economic situation of the imperialistic countries keeps deteriorating. If the aggressors should attempt war it will undoubtedly end with the destruction of imperialism, he said. The US is trying in vain to slander Hungary by accusing its government of violating human rights. "We shall continue to disregard the 'right' of US spies and saboteurs to misdeeds and immunity."

The minister charged that the US pursues a hostile policy toward Hungary and that the press and radio dominated by the US government systematically disseminate lies and slanders against the people of Hungary. He further charged that the US government has violated a series of international obligations, has refused to extradite war criminals and to return stolen Hungarian property, has arbitrarily denounced economic and consular agreements with Hungary, and pursues a discriminatory economic policy toward Hungary.

According to the ministers, the US authorities are collaborating with Hungarian fascists abroad, President Truman himself repeatedly gave encouragement to Hungarian fascist organizations operating in the US, and the US forces in West Germany are organizing and directing Hungarian fascist units under the leadership of former Arrow Cross generals. To bring to light the true facts, the Hungarian government issued a declaration on 24 November and a White Book on 6 December and will continue to beat back imperialistic provocations.

Kiss then turned his attention to Tito, who is financed by the US. He showed that Belgrade is preparing to conquer Hungary. Yugoslav military preparations, border violations, collaboration with the US, etc., all point to the fact that Belgrade is attempting to aggravate the situation, he said. More recently, incidents have increased on the Austro-Hungarian border. As to the rearming of West Germany, he said, Hungary cannot remain indifferent to the rebirth of German imperialism under the leadership of former Hitler generals.

The minister said that the influence of the US has also caused considerable damage to the prestige of the UN, especially by opposing Hungary's admission to membership, despite the fact that the US had promised, in the preamble of the peace treaty, to support Hungary's admission to the UN. According to Kiss, the Hungarian people are in complete solidarity with the people of Korea and the Chinese volunteers in resisting the US invasion. The bulk of Hungary's foreign trade is being transacted with the USSR and the People's Democracies. However, economic relations will be continued with all capitalist countries that respect Hungary's sovereignty. [No budget figures mentioned.]

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In introducing the budget of the Ministry of the Interior, Sandor Harnat explained that the 1952 budget provides large sums for the political and ideological training of local-council personnel. The 1952 budget will also furnish the means to assure adequate police and fire protection. Ferenc Nezval, deputy president of the Executive Committee of the Budapest City Council, said that the increase in the appropriations for the Ministry of the Interior is not due to inflated administration, but to the increased tasks, including child welfare. Andras Nadhazy spoke of the work of the public administration in curbing speculators and of the popularity of the police and AVH (State Security Authority) among the population. [No figures mentioned.]

In discussing the budget of the Ministry of Defense, Lajos Nyemecz advocated the modernization of the Hungarian armed forces in the defense of peace. Col. Jeno Hazai spoke of the patriotism of the members of the Hungarian armed forces and their cultural and ideological training. Istvan Nagy called on the armed forces to emulate the example of the Red Army of the USSR and, finally, Mrs. Agoston Szomolyai spoke in the name of the working mothers in the cause of peace. [No budget figures mentioned.]

After the budget of the Ministry of Public Health was introduced by Laszlo Pesta, Rozsi Sarfi, secretary-general of the Trade Union for Medical and Hygiene Workers, and Zsigmond Kende participated in the discussion, presenting the following facts: The number of rural health groups increased 52 percent and the number of doctors' offices in towns by 70 percent during 1951, as compared to 1950. The current rate of infant mortality is approximately 8.4 percent as compared with 13.1 percent in 1938, and the death rate from tuberculosis has dropped from 14.2 per thousand to below 5 per thousand, while the birth rate has increased from 5.7 per thousand to 11.8 per thousand during the same period.

Ministries of Metallurgy and Machine Building, Mining and Power

On 19 December, Pal Vig introduced the budget of the Ministry of Metallurgy and Machine Building in the amount of over 2 billion forints, a large part of which has been appropriated for the further development of ferrous metallurgy. During 1952, it is planned to increase the production of raw iron by 27.3 percent, of trucks by 23.9 percent, and of busses by 117.7 percent as compared with 1951. It is also planned to increase machine production substantially. For example, increases in production will amount to 66.7 percent for caterpillar tractors, 150 percent for harvesting combines, and 157.2 percent for binders, while the mass production industry, which produced 50 percent more in 1951 than in 1950, is expected to show a further increase of 25 percent. Other production increases in 1952 will include 11.6 percent for bicycles, 52.9 percent for kitchen utensils, 29.8 percent for radio sets, 52.4 percent for stoves, and 29.1 percent for ovens and furnaces. Productivity in the whole field of metallurgy and machine building will be increased 11.8 percent.

Istvan Hidas, secretary of the Budapest Party Committee, commented that during 1951 production showed an increase over 1950 by 24.1 percent in rolled products, 22.8 percent in motor bicycles, 19.7 percent in bicycles, and 45.5 percent in the value of machines. The first agricultural combine was completed during 1951 and it is planned to produce 500 combines in 1952. New industrial plants completed in 1951 included the Railroad Switch and Siding Works (Valto-es Kiterogyer), Gyor Screw Factory (Gyori Csavargyar), the Szekesfehervar Processing Works (Szekesfehervari Megmunkalgyar), etc.

Jozsef Mekis, director general of the Matyas Rakosi Iron and Metal Works, added that while savings due to innovations in the entire heavy industry during 1950 totaled 411,359,000 forints, innovations in the field of metallurgy and machine building alone resulted in a saving of 423,411,000 forints during the

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first 10 months of 1951. Prizes distributed for the innovations amounted to 12,379,000 forints during the latter period. Mekis also recommended that the appropriation for the mechanization of metallurgy be raised by 10 million forints and that 15 million forints be added to the amount allocated for the production of lathes, drills, and milling machines.

Jozsef Pothornyik, chairman of the Miners' Union, introduced the budget of the Ministry of Mining and Power. Aggregate production of the industries operating under the ministry increased 25.7 percent and coal production by over 17 percent during the first 10 months of 1951 as compared with the corresponding period of 1950, while production of electric power in 1951 increased by 18.5 percent as compared with 1950. It is expected that the industries concerned will increase their output 29.4 percent during 1952 as compared to 1951, while coal production will increase 21 percent, petroleum production 13 percent, ore and miscellaneous mining 46 percent, and power production 18 percent. To assure these gains, the government has set aside 35 percent more money for investments under the ministry than in 1951.

Janos Oroszi, director of the Zagyva Coal Mines, stated that according to the 1952 plans the number of miners will be increased by 7,000. He suggested a supplemental appropriation of 24.3 million forints for the construction of housing in the mining regions.

The next speaker was Sandor Czottner, Minister of Mining and Power, who reported that the total number of workers and employees in enterprises under the jurisdiction of his ministry had increased by 20,000. Enterprises which completed their 1951 plans on schedule include the Dorog, Zagyva, and Kisterenye coal mines, the Industrial Explosives Works (Ipai Robbanoanyag Gyar), Hungaria Chemical Works (Hungaria Vegyi Muvek), and the Ajka Power Plant (Ajka Eromu). Production quotas for bearing metal, spar iron ore, phosphate fertilizer, and coal tar were exceeded during the first 11 months of 1951, and the quota for penicillin production was fulfilled 124.4 percent during the same period.

The minister then suggested the following increases in appropriations: 10.5 million forints for the mechanization of coal mining, 7.8 million forints for the mechanization of petroleum mining, and 21.1 million forints for the construction of the Nepliget, Albertfalva, and Angyalfold power distributing stations. Current plans call for the electrification of 158 villages, 74 state farms, 40 machine stations, and 98 producers' cooperatives during 1952, while work on the "7 November" (Inota), Borsod, Sztalinvaros (Dunapentele), and Matra power plants will continue and construction of a new power generating plant [location not mentioned] will also be started. To provide for the continued development of the 15 research institutes operating under the ministry, 120 million forints have been allocated in the 1952 budget. [No further budget figures mentioned.]

Ministries of Light Industry, Building Industry, and Commerce

Jozsef Czett introduced the budget of the Ministry of Light Industry and stated that the value of goods produced by Hungarian light industry during 1951 is expected to be 24.5 percent higher than that for 1950, while current plans call for a 44 percent increase during 1952 as compared with 1950. The 1952 budget provides 8,699,000 forints for technical training, in addition to 11 million forints for light-industry research institutes, as compared with 6,632,000 forints in 1951.

Gizella Hegyi praised the workers engaged in the light industries for overfulfilling their quotas. As compared with 1950, production of cotton goods increased 15.6 percent in 1951, woolen goods 15 percent, men's suits 69.6 percent,

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and leather shoes 26 percent. Hungarian light industry is indebted to the USSR for help received in the form of raw materials, machinery, and technical advice by Soviet Stakhanovites. During 1951, numerous new light-industry factories were completed, including the Kaposvar Spinning Mill (Kaposvari Fonoda) and the modern Zalaegerszeg Clothing Factory (Zalaegerszegi Ruhagyar). Under the Five-Year Plan, clothing factories are rapidly being erected, displacing the small, unsanitary shops. [No budget figures mentioned.]

In introducing the budget of the Ministry of Building Industry, Laszle Csala boasted that Hungary never enjoyed a building boom comparable to the present. On the whole, the ministry completed the tasks set by the augmented Five-Year Plan for 1951. Budgetary appropriations for 1952 are nearly double the amount for 1951 and include 29.5 million forints for the development of technical cadres.

Jozsef Kobol spoke of the building activity which is in progress throughout the country. New housing developments, designed for tens of thousands of tenants, are under construction at Sztalinvaros, Komlo, Tatabanya-Ujvaros, Nagyatony, Varpalota, etc., he said, adding that the name of Kazincbarcika, where one of Hungary's most powerful industrial cities is to be built, has become well known. In addition, he added, hundreds of new, modern, industrial plants are being built at Kiskunfelegyhaza, Gyongyos, Tiszeg, Diosgyor, Hodmezovasarhely, and in many other towns and villages which had no industries before. Budapest, however, ranks first in the matter of new construction. "Next to the iron and metal industry, the building industry has become the second most important industry in Hungary," and as a result of the widespread building activity, the face of the country is being changed thoroughly, Kobol concluded.

Subsequently, Istvan Toth spoke of the marvelous boom in Hungary's building industry. In addition, he brought out the fact that, on the basis of Soviet experience, Hungary has succeeded in eliminating the seasonal character of the building industry. Toth recommended an increase of 10 million forints in the appropriation for the mechanization of the building industry. [No budget figures mentioned.]

The budget of the Ministry of Commerce was introduced by Minister of Commerce Janos Tausz, who said that domestic commerce reflects the enormous achievements of the national economy as a whole under the leadership of the Hungarian Workers' Party. Wholesale trade increased 18 percent and retail trade 50 percent in 1951 as compared with 1950. During 1951, 22 percent more higher priced wearing apparel, twice as much furniture, 250 carloads more dressed poultry, and 30 million more eggs were purchased by the workers as compared with 1950. Trade in fats, flour, and other foods also increased and sales of granulated and lump sugar were 1,800 carloads in excess of those during 1950. There has been a considerable growth in the socialized sector's share in the increased volume of distribution. At present, over 14,000 state and cooperative stores are operating. The rise in the standard of living of the general population is reflected also in the purchase of cultural objects. During 1951, for example, over 12 million books have been sold.

Kalman Pongracz, president of the Executive Committee of the Budapest City Council, praised the personnel employed in commerce for fulfilling the tasks set by the party. The country's network of commercial establishments and retail stores has expanded many times, a fact which should be relied upon to provide undisturbed continued employment. Thanks to the good crops, the ration system, with the exception of meat and fats, has been discontinued and, as a result, prices are falling. Deficiencies in commerce include excessive centralization of management, lack of participation by the masses in control, professional insufficiency of part of the personnel, and inadequacy of market research.

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Ministries of Justice, Education, Food, Foreign Trade, Communications and Postal Affairs

The 20 December session of parliament was devoted to the budgets of the Ministries of Justice, Education, Food, Foreign Trade, and Communications, and Postal Affairs.

In introducing the budget of the Ministry of Justice, Istvan Spaczal announced that numerous lower courts will be established in Hungary during 1952. One of the most urgent tasks of the ministry is the preparation of the new civil code and the introduction of people's courts in the administration of justice. According to Spaczal, other important tasks include punishment of the enemies of the People's Democracy, strengthening civic discipline, protection of social property, etc.

Jozsef Nemeti commented that the standard of the administration of justice in Hungary was raised to a higher level, due in particular to the employment of recent graduates of the Academy for Judges and Prosecutors, the students of which were largely recruited from the ranks of workers and peasants. According to Endre Toth, the juridical agreement between Hungary and Czechoslovakia represented important progress in the extension of a mutual understanding among the People's Democracies. Toth concluded by referring to the recent release from prison of Veessenmayer, who had been responsible for the murder of thousands of Hungarian nationals. Veessenmayer's release is another example of the disregard in which the imperialists hold international law, he stated.

According to Gabor Kerek, who introduced the budget of the Ministry of Education, substantial progress has been achieved by the ministry. The number of grade-school teachers has been increased and specialized instruction has been made available to 60 percent of the upper-grade pupils in the general school. Although 14 kinds of industrial and four kinds of agricultural schools were in existence during the 1950 - 1951 school year, they have been increased to 47 and 48, respectively, during 1951. Students enrolled in the general schools, high schools, and universities number 1,400,000 at present, with high-school pupils representing double and university students three times the respective numbers under the Horthy regime. Currently, more than 60 percent of the students and pupils are of worker and peasant origin, as compared with only 4-5 percent during the Horthy era.

Istvan Ruzsnyak, Kossuth-Prize-winning university professor, told the parliament that the reform of the universities has been very successful. Over 120 different university textbooks have been issued in 300,000 copies, Soviet scientific experience is being applied increasingly, and Soviet experience in higher education is being introduced. Saying that thanks are due the Soviet scholars and professors residing in Hungary for their help in this field, Ruzsnyak recommended an increase from 6 to 12 million forints in the appropriation for the building of the faculty of science. [Location of the proposed building not given.]

Mrs Lajos Toth called attention to the fact that the budget of the Ministry of Education represents an increase of 53.3 percent as compared with 1951 appropriations. The increase is actually even greater since expenditures for nurseries, general schools, and high schools are borne by the local councils. She recommended the following supplementary appropriations: 4 million forints for the building of the Diosgyor and Ozd student homes; an additional 5 million forints for nurseries; 5 million forints for physical education in the schools; and 15 million forints for repair of the nationalized parochial schools. [No further budget figures revealed.]

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Mrs Karoly Pala introduced the budget of the Ministry of Food totaling 52,139,000 forints. She stated that new plants built by the ministry, during 1951, included refrigerating plants at Kecskemet and Szeged, a bread factory at Sztalinvaros, a dairy plant at Bacsbokod, a vegetable oil plant at Bekescsaba, a tobacco fermenter at Nyiregyhaza, and a tartaric acid plant at Kobanya (Budapest).

Jozsef Balogh praised the success of the ministry in the collection of farm products. Approximately 485,000 independent peasants surpassed their delivery obligations, including 130,000 who achieved 200 percent fulfillment. The producers' cooperatives fulfilled their delivery obligations to the extent of several hundred percent, several of them scoring over 1,000 percent.

Minister of Food Imre Nagy called attention to the fact that his ministry had been established less than a year and that it embraces two large areas of the national economy, namely, collection of farm products and the food industry. Nagy said that the compulsory delivery system is not an emergency or transitional measure, but an integral and permanent part of the national planning. Thanks to the support which the working peasants extended to the government, collection during the 1950 - 1951 agricultural year represented an increase of 24.4 percent in grains, 233.9 percent in corn, 50 percent in sunflowers, and 132.3 percent in potatoes, while the income of the peasants increased by 2,615,000 forints as compared with the previous year. At the same time, the value of goods sold through the rural stores increased from 2 billion to 4.2 billion forints. The collecting organization must be improved, however. Its greatest deficiency is lack of discipline, which will be eradicated. In the field of the food industry, over-all plan fulfillment for 1951 is expected to reach approximately 101 percent.

In presenting the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Trade, Kalman Nagymarosi stated that Hungary's foreign trade during 1952 is expected to show an increase of at least 15 percent as compared with 1951. Hungary's foreign trade is based on the exchange of goods with the USSR and the people's democracies. Nevertheless, he said, the Hungarian government also endeavors to maintain trade relations with capitalist countries; in addition, it desires to increase its trade with the Near East and the Far East.

Rezso Myers said that the ministry's budget was increased from 48 million forints for 1951 to 61 million forints for 1952. In its trade relations with friendly countries, the Hungarian government is gradually adopting the method of long-term agreements. A long-term agreement with the USSR will be concluded shortly, and will be followed by similar agreements with Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic, while the long-term agreement concluded with Poland 2 years ago will be broadened. The success which Hungary has scored in the field of foreign trade is due to a large extent to the Council of Economic Mutual Assistance and to the USSR.

Sandor Gaspar introduced the budget of the Ministry of Communications and Postal Affairs, which showed an increase of 4 million forints [sic] as compared with 1951. Approximately 17 percent of the appropriations will be devoted to cultural and social purposes and over 4 million forints have been set aside for the Transportation and Communications University. Large amounts have been provided also for the six technical schools operated by the ministry, for the training of chauffeurs, and for the training of skilled workers in sub-surface construction. The appropriation for the social security fund of the Railroad Men's Trade Union has been increased 114.5 percent as compared with 1951.

Kalman Racz stated that railroad freight traffic during 1952 is expected to increase 18 percent and passenger traffic 8 percent as compared with 1951. To speed up traffic and improve safety, the Budapest-Tatabanya and Budapest-

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Cegled railroad lines will be equipped with automatic switches and the rolling stock will be increased considerably. Pacz recommended several supplementary appropriations, including 4.5 million forints for the extension of the trolley-bus network, 15 million forints for the repair of highways, and 3.5 million forints for the construction of the Dudarbanya railroad line.

Ferenc Gem expressed the gratitude of the working peasants for the investments in transportation. Since liberation, he said, over 1,000 kilometers of narrow-gauge railroad and several hundred kilometers of secondary roads have been placed in operation. He added that introduction of the telephone and radio in rural localities has been welcomed.

Ministries of Culture, Agriculture, Finance

On 21 December, the parliament discussed and passed the budgets of the Ministries of Culture, Agriculture, and Finance.

According to Sandor Barcs, who introduced the budget of the Ministry of Culture, considerable progress was achieved in the field of popular culture during 1951. Over 1,000 new culture centers were opened and a similar number will be established in 1952. Several new theaters were built, the number of public libraries was increased by 1,000 and an additional 1,600 libraries will be opened during 1952. Very great progress was also made in the arts, music, the cinema, radio broadcasts, etc. The School of Journalism was established in 1951 and will be expanded during 1952.

Marton Horvath gave a description of the rise of Hungarian national art both in the rural districts and among the urban population. All these great advances were achieved under the auspices of Soviet culture. Peter Veres added that holdings of public libraries increased by 400,000 and those of plant libraries by 800,000 volumes during 1951. [No budget figures mentioned.]

In introducing the budget of the Ministry of Agriculture, Balazs Csaszar stated that one fourth of the country's arable land has already been added to the socialized sector. During 1951, the number of machines owned by the state machine stations increased 47 percent. The 1951 quota for wheat production was fulfilled 106 percent, for barley 112 percent, for corn 113 percent, and for sugar beets 136 percent. These successes were achieved with the aid of the USSR, he said, adding that Soviet experience has been specifically responsible for the enormous development of the socialized sector in Hungary's agriculture. Appropriations for the budget of the ministry have been increased 100 percent as compared with 1951. According to Csaszar, the area under irrigation will be increased 55 percent during 1952. Much attention will be devoted to professional training, experimental stations, and scientific institutions, with increased application of Soviet science, and appropriations for these purposes are double the amount budgeted for 1951. Appropriations for investments in agriculture, together with the budget of the state agricultural machine stations, total over 1.5 billion forints.

Ferenc David gave an account of the cultivation of cotton, koksagiz, kenaf, and other naturalized plants, adding that 62 million forints have been allocated in the 1952 budget for agricultural experimentation and research. David then discussed the progress made by the producers' cooperatives. The greatest successes were scored by cooperatives working consolidated tracts instead of separate strips of land. Financial results are very satisfactory. For example, in Heves County soared, from 823,000 to 4,730,000 forints, in Szabolcs County from 2,400,000 to 10,200,000 forints, and in Szolnok County from 3 million to 17,600,000 forints. During 1951, the producers' cooperatives also completed extensive new buildings, including stables for 70,000 head of cattle, sties for

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over 100,000 hogs, folds for 100,000 sheep, and 162,000 cubic meter of concrete silos. Speaking of deficiencies, David pointed out the lack of discipline, heavy labor turnover, and inferior management in the state agricultural machine stations. In conclusion, he recommended a supplemental appropriation of 10 million forints for the mechanization of agriculture.

Mrs Janos Kokai called attention to the fact that women are present in labor as well as in leading positions. Ferenc Szabo praised the government for the enormous financial help which it has given to the peasants, giving the following data: In 1951, a total of 1,672,000,000 forints was invested in agriculture and over 3,000 tractors, 1,250 combines, 850 threshing machines, 850 hay stackers, 900 horse-drawn grass mowers, thousands of other agricultural machines, and 2,600,000 quintals of fertilizer were given to the peasants. Irrigation was introduced on 31,000 cadastral yokes of land. In addition, new roads were built, medical offices, pharmacies, and nurseries were opened, and 165 trillion cadastral yokes owned by independent peasants were plowed by means of state-owned tractors during 1951. Hungarian agriculture received tremendous aid from the USSR.

The budget of the Ministry of Finance was introduced by Imre Kiss, who stressed the huge rise in revenues and their composition. The bulk of the 1952 revenues, or 26.2 billion forints, will be derived from the turnover tax, he said. The great increase in this tax item is due to two facts: (1) that the majority of state enterprises have reduced production costs over and above the extent originally planned, and (2) that the volume of production has experienced an enormous rise. Enhanced sales of consumption goods naturally contribute to turnover tax revenues. Kiss added that the Economic and Finance Committee has examined and approved all supplementary recommendations, resulting in an increase of 166.7 forints in 1952 expenditures.

According to Janos Szita, the rise in the standard of living in Hungary is clearly demonstrated by the rapid increase of the national wage fund. It not only shows that income from wages has been increasing year by year, but also that the number of workers per family is increasing. An increasing quota of Hungary's national revenues originates in the socialized sector and will amount to 87 percent of the total in 1952, said Szita. While revenues from this source totaled only 11 billion forints in 1950, they rose to 22 billion forints in 1951 and will continue to rise to 37 billion forints in 1952. One of the most important problems is the reduction of the cost of production.

The possibilities in this field are very great, as demonstrated by the recent reduction in the costs of such important products as raw iron, electric motors, superphosphate, and medicines. It should not be overlooked, Szita said, that in many other industries, such as the building, paper, truck and tractor-manufacturing, leather, and soap industries, production costs have been reduced to an insufficient degree or have even risen. Closely connected with the problem of production costs is that of circulating capital, which also leaves much to be accomplished. Another element entering into the problem of production costs is the even flow of production instead of the spasmodic pace which characterizes work in many plants at present, he concluded.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Minister of Finance, the parliament approved all supplements proposed during the budget debate. As a result, the grand total of revenues was increased to 42,769,727,000 forints and expenditures to 42,480,970,000 forints, with a surplus of 288,757,000 forints.

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